

Maurice Hinchey NEWS

26TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, NEW YORK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 18, 2002

LOCKHEED MARTIN AWARDED \$12.5 MILLION CONTRACT MODIFICATION

WASHINGTON - U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (NY-26) today announced that the U.S. Navy has awarded Lockheed Martin Systems Integration in Owego a \$12.5 million modification to a previously awarded contract for work on the MH-60R aircraft. The work called for by the modification supports the Navy's Multi-Mission helicopter program (MH-60).

The Navy initiated the MH-60R Engineering and Manufacturing Development program in 1993 to meet the increased war-fighting needs of tactical rotary wing aircraft operating in coastal areas. It is the centerpiece of the Navy's Helicopter Master Plan, which will consolidate the majority of the fleet into two models, the MH-60R and the MH-60S. The MH-60 common cockpit supports this plan by meeting all operational needs for both H-60 helicopters. The common cockpit results in lower acquisition, training and logistics costs for the Navy.

"The work that Lockheed Martin is doing on the MH-60 program is saving the Navy money while providing it with the highest possible level of military capability," said Hinchey. "This decision demonstrates that the Navy continues to place its trust in Lockheed Martin and its great staff in Owego."

There are currently six MH-60R aircraft in testing. Three test aircraft are at Naval Air Warfare Center in Maryland for development and operational tests, and three test aircraft are at Lockheed Martin - Owego for integration and test. The MH-60R program is worth approximately \$7 billion and encompasses the production of approximately 243 aircraft.